

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-13, and 16-21 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 13 are independent. Claims 13 and 16 have been amended, and Claims 14, 15, and 22-24 have been canceled. Amended Claim 13 includes features of canceled Claims 14 and 15. Claim 16 has been amended to depend from Claim 13. Applicants submit that this Amendment does not require a further search since amended Claim 13 merely incorporates previous Claims 14 and 15.

In the Final Office Action, mailed October 28, 2002, Claims 1 and 3-24 were rejected as allegedly anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by European Patent No. EP 0 787 334 (Kadaba).

An aspect of the present invention, set forth in independent Claim 1, is directed to, *inter alia*, a base station capable of communicating with the portable data terminal for uploading electronic files thereto in order to modify the data collection format, wherein the system is configurable so as to allow a user to use the base station to modify the data collection format according to the user's needs.

As understood by applicants, Kadaba fails to teach or suggest each and every element disclosed in Applicants' Claim 1. Specifically, Applicants have found nothing in Kadaba that discloses or suggests a base station capable of communicating with the portable data terminal for uploading electronic files thereto in order to modify the data collection format, wherein the system is configurable so as to allow a user to use the base station to modify the data collection format according to the user's needs, as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is allowable.

An aspect of the present invention, set forth in amended independent Claim 13, is directed to a portable data terminal for tracking receipt and internal movement resulting in a delivery or other final disposition status of items such as packages within an organization. The data terminal includes a display device to display information and an inputting device to input information regarding the receipt and the internal movement of items. The data terminal is programmed to record information regarding the receipt and the internal movement of items. A communication device is also included in the data terminal so as to allow the portable data terminal to communicate with an external device for exchanging electronic files. The external device is configurable to allow the user to create or modify the data collection format at the external device and to upload electronic files therefrom to the portable data terminal in order to modify the data collection format.

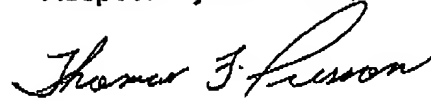
Applicants respectfully submit that Kadaba does not teach or suggest each and every element disclosed in Applicants' amended Claim 13. Specifically, Applicants have found nothing in Kadaba that would disclose or suggest a communication device included in the data terminal that allows the portable data terminal to communicate with an external device for exchanging electronic files. Nor do Applicants find anything in Kadaba that would disclose or suggest an external device that is configurable to allow the user to create or modify the data collection format at the external device and to upload electronic files therefrom to the portable data terminal in order to modify the data collection format, as recited in Claim 13. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 13 is allowable.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application. Applicants submit that the Amendment does not require further search because amended Claim 13 includes features previously recited in Claims 14 and 15.

Applicants' attorney may be reached at (203) 924-3845. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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